SHRI A. RAJA: Sir, the main question is not related to spectrum. In spite of that, I can submit to the House that so far 100 MHz is earmarked for 2G in India. Out of 100 MHz, only 37—40 MHz is being used by all the existing operators. Some of the spectrum is available and some of the spectrum is being used by user-agencies in the name of Defence, and in the name of Air Force etc. So, the Prime Minister was pleased to constitute a Committee under the chairmanship of External Affairs Minister to see how we can get back that spectrum from the user agencies by giving alternative mode of usage. It is going on. I can assure the House that as soon as the spectrum is available, the new service-providers will be allowed. There is no hesitation. The Prime Minister is very keen, his Government is very keen and committed for healthy competition in this field, which will reflect ...*(Interruptions)*... The Government is keen to have a healthy competition. ...*(Interruptions)*... I can assure the House that the Government, and the Prime Minister, is committed to have a healthy competition in the telecom sector which will reflect lower tariff and give more teledensity.

SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI. Sir, the reports are that the existing operators are trying to corner it ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please; only one supplementary is allowed. Next Question. Question No. 104.

Grant of carbon credits to domestic companies

*104. SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA : ††
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has set up any national level mechanism to calculate and grant carbon credits to domestic companies;

(b) whether Government have made any estimates of the potential for domestic industry in carbon trade;

(c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(d) whether Government propose to hold capacity building programme for the private and public industries in carbon trade?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (d) The Government of India has set up the National Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) Authority which is the designated National Authority for according Host Country Approval to eligible projects. Further validation of projects, including calculation of Certified Emission Reductions.(CERs), is undertaken by the Designated Operational Entities (DOEs). Based on DOE recommendations, the Carbon Credits are issued by the CDM Executive Board (EB), by following the stipulated procedure.

As per National Strategy Study conducted in the year 200S, estimates of the potential for domestic industry with regard to generation of Certified Emission Reductions (CERs) are around 417 million tonnes of carbon-dioxide equivalent (MtC02eq) by the end of first commitment period of Kyoto Protocol i.e. 2012. Sector-wise break-up is as follows—Power generation —319 MtC02eq, Transport—41 MtC02eq, Industries—57 MtC02eq.

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†† The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shrimati Prema Cariappa.

The Central Government has been actively involved in Capacity Building of private and public sectors. A number of workshops have been organized in the past, and government officials participate in various seminars organized by industry associations and others. The Government has come out with CDM Tool Kits in collaboration with Asian Development Bank (ADB), which has been well received by all stakeholders. The Government had also initiated capacity building exercise with other multilateral agencies, *viz.* UNDP and GTZ, including capacity building of selected State level agencies.

SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA: Sir, as per the reply of the Minister, according to the National Strategy Study conducted in the year. 2005, estimates of the potential for domestic industry with regard to generation of Certified Emission Reductions (CERs) are around 417 million tonnes of carbon-dioxide equivalent by the end of first commitment period of Kyoto Protocol, i.e., 2012. 1 understand that the Kyoto Protocol will expire in 2012. What will happen after that? This is what I would like to know from the hon. Minister.

SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA: Sir, the first commitment period of Kyoto Protocol will end in 2012. However, discussions are on further, deeper and longer commitments for Annexe I countries for the second commencement period post 2012.

SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA: Sir, my second supplementary is,—it is part(d) of my question—will the hon. Minister tell which are the States and State-level agencies with which the Central Government is actively involved in capacity building of private and public sector?

SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA: Sir, we have done a lot of capacity-building programmes. With the help of various organisations like the UNDP-MoEF umbrella project on capacity-building of selected State-level agencies for small-scale CDM projects for Iearning-by-doing-routine, in 13 States CDM facilitation centres have been commissioned. These include Arunachal Pradesh, Uttaranchal, Tamil Nadu, Chhattisgarh, Himachal Pradesh, West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Goa, Orissa, Jharkhand, Haryana and Bihar. We have also got a GTZ capacity-building programme—'Development of Selected Methodologies and Projects' under CDM, technical support to national CDM Authority. Under ADB technical assistance on capacity building, the following book was published, "A guide to Tool Kits", for implementing small scale CDMs.

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Sir, Carbon trading is a very important subject in the world today. I would like to know whether the Government would like to start a Carbon trading exchange, which would cover not only Asia and Africa but also help international business in a big way. Also, he has said that the Government proposes to create a pool of trained offset-aggregators, climate-change consultants and bankers. What is the price earned by Indian entities per unit of CER?

SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA: Sir, a debate is going on regarding the issue of Carbon-exchange. This is basically the subject matter of the Finance Ministry.

Universal Service Obligation Fund

*105. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that two private telecom operators have been found making false claims and drawing excess subsidy from the Universal Service Obligation (USO) Fund for providing services in rural areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and